

THE BLUE PRINT

Spring 2001

Project Focus: Grand Opening of Aviano AFB BX/Commissary

By LT Scot Sanders
AROICC, Aviano AFB

AVIANO AFB, Italy. - The latest edition to the "Aviano 2000 program," a 150,000 square foot Base Exchange and Commissary Shopping Complex, was opened on November 7 2000 with a big bang that included a band, a fly-by and lots of fanfare. The complex has been open for several months now and is the most popular spot on base.

The \$16 million dollar construction project required 24 months to complete, involved numerous people, and overcame many obstacles. During the final nine months of construction, major customer requested changes and design conflicts forced the contract team to issue numerous modifications. The changes were needed not only to keep



Photo by Maurizio Zorat
The Grand Opening ceremonies at the Aviano Base Exchange and Commissary.

construction moving, but to allow for a state of the art facility, which would then provide better service to the customers in blue.

Dealing with multiple clients like AAFES, DECA, USAFE and NATO proved to be an enjoyable challenge. Another challenge was the Contractor's continual issuance of impending work stoppage for technical and financial reasons. The ROICC Northern Italy team was able to pull all the requirements together and keep the project from derailing.

This facility had extremely high visibility from USAFE and EUCOM, not to mention the 10,000 airman, soldiers, sailors and families who were previously shopping in facilities designed to support only a few hundred. The new complex quadrupled the total retail space available in order to off-

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CNE / EFA MED Stand Up Two New NATO Bases

By Mitch Cooperman
Claimant Liaison Officer
EFA MED HQ

Who you gonna call when you need to provide Administrative and support spaces to U.S. forces arriving at undeveloped Greek and Spanish Army bases? EFA Med of course, and that is exactly what CINCUSNAVEUR did. In December of 1999, NATO had commissioned two new bases, Joint

Command Headquarters Southwest (JCSW) in Larissa Greece, and Joint Command Headquarters South Central (JCSC) in Madrid Spain. U.S. Element forces began arriving immediately and moved into cramped facilities without enough space or enough utility sup-

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Photo by LT Arnoldi
New Elementary School at Larissa, Greece

COMMANDER'S

CORNER

*CAPT James W. Hollrith
CEC, USN
Commanding Officer
Engineering Field
Activity, Mediterranean*



With the arrival of spring comes renewal and rejuvenation. As the weather warms up, it's a great opportunity to spend time with family and friends, as spring break approaches and outdoor activities abound. It's also a great opportunity to re-energize our efforts to push project execution and work-in-place, as only half of the fiscal year remains. Our clients will be revisiting their budgets at mid-year review and may be able to acquire more of their infrastructure requirements if funds become available. Let's re-look at our priorities, and position ourselves appropriately to tackle the second half of the year as well or better than the first.

This is our third issue of The Blue Print, and it has some wonderful articles celebrating who we are and what we've done. Please take the time to read all about us. Remember, be safe, work hard, take time to smell the roses, and have fun!

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Editor
Christine Stevenson

Volume 2, Number 1

Earthquake Assessment in Baku, Azerbaijan

By LCDR(S) Eric Aaby and LT Mark Russell, EFA MED

CEC officers LCDR(s) Eric Aaby of PWD, NSA Naples and LT Mark Russell of EFA Med HQ recently returned from an assessment of damaged schools in Baku, Azerbaijan. Upon first being informed they were selected to perform the assessment, the common question was: "Where in the world is Azerbaijan?" The response can best be summed up in the words of the U.S. Embassies, OPSCO, MSGT McCollum: "It's not at the end of the world, but you can certainly see it from there. Actually it's located on the Caspian Sea at the crossroads between Russia, Georgia, Armenia, and Iran."

The call for assistance came from the U.S. Embassy in Baku via EUCOM following two consecutive earthquakes on 25 November 2000. The epicenter for the quakes occurred about 25 km into the Caspian Sea off the southeast coast of Baku. The first measured approximately 5.9 on the Richter scale, followed



Photo by LT Mark Russell

LCDR Aaby (second from right) with members of the Azerbaijan Assessment Team.

by a second registering 6.3 in Baku (approximately 7.0 on the Richter scale at the epicenter). Original reports from the Azerbaijan Government indicated that 31 people died, hundreds were injured, and thousands were forced to evacuate their homes due to unsafe structures.

Until 1991, Azerbaijan had been one of the satellite countries of the Soviet Union. Most of the public buildings were initially constructed prior to World War II. Since gaining their independence, the infrastructure of the country has suffered significantly resulting in little or no maintenance of the facilities. As a close assessment of the facilities was performed, it became obvious that most of the damage was pre-existing and that the earthquakes only accentuated the problems.

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New NATO Bases

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port. Families were to begin arriving in the summer of 2000, and there were no childcare or school facilities that would meet today's seismic, force protection, or education specifications. Add to this requirements to lease Flag Officer Quarters and TLA units, and to develop long term requirements for a MCON Program, all in an area where there had been no previous US presence, and you had a handful of projects begging for program coordination.



Photo by LT Arnoldi

Larissa AAFES warehouse

CINCUSNAVUER officially requested EFA MED develop a program that would provide interim facilities and permanent MCON facilities to augment the NATO Headquarters facilities being built in both locations. Immediate facilities required at Larissa to support 250 US military included an Administrative Support Facility, a Mini Mart, Playing Courts, a MWR Facility, a DoDDS Elementary School, Temporary Living Accommodations, and Flag Quarters leases.

EFA MED HQ quickly responded by setting up a task-focused Integrated Product Team (IPT) for Larissa and Madrid. Headed by Mitch Cooperman, the command's Client Liaison Officer, and including Activity Liaison Officer Mark Nelson, Project Managers Karla Brown (Larissa) and Brian Sanders (Madrid), Real Estate Specialists Jeff Casalina, Mark Bennett, and Vicki Hartung, Architect Colin Payne, and Contract Specialists Laurie Hull and Cassey Sheppard, the team quickly set up "charette" sessions in Larissa and Madrid to determine the scope of each of the requested facilities. These sessions resulted in prioritizing the projects in Larissa, where the largest numbers of personnel were arriving the soonest. Larissa is also a much more remote location than Madrid, so efforts were initially focused there.

Plans called for renovating an existing facility for National Support Element administrative space, renovating another facility to create a shoppette and warehouse, renovating two outdoor ball courts, and finishing with a newly constructed DoDDS Elementary School. The first issue to be dealt with was Force Protection. The facilities to be renovated were located directly on the perimeter wall, so the team had to get Greek approvals to build added fencing 46 meters out from the wall in order to meet standoff requirements. Then, using an existing IDIQ contract, the team tapped into Greek engineering expertise for the design work. This proved important as the team only had 5 months to design and renovate/construct these facilities and a lot of familiarity with Greek codes, infrastructure, and the military was required.

The design for the capstone project (the school) began during the charette effort. It became clear the school was going to cross the threshold into MILCON scope, so the team began discussions with DoDDS Europe and Headquarters in Washington to gain support. Final approval was given for a \$1.4 million Unspecified Minor Construction project in April 2000. Construction started on 14 May and finished 15 Sep on schedule. DoDDS was then able to outfit the building and open as promised on 1 October 2000.

With the short-term construction well under way, the team enlisted support from the Base Development Group in Norfolk to develop long-term facility needs. Planners Dale Wheelbarger and Diane Tucker flew to Larissa to develop site plans and facility requirements for Barracks, an NSE Support Complex, and Flag Quarters. These projects are now under various stages of design in the FY02 and 03 MCON Programs. ♦

Upcoming Events

30 Mar	LDI Applications Due
20 Apr	P.E. Exam*, HQ
21 Apr	E.I.T. Exam*, HQ
1 Aug	Application Deadline, spring EIT/PE Exam*
26 Oct	P.E. Exam*, HQ
27 Oct	E.I.T. Exam*, HQ

* North Carolina Exam (for more info, contact David P. Isbell, R.A., HQ)

Aviano BX/Commissary Team

(Continued from page 1)

set the Base population boom from the 1995 “bed-down” of two F-16 squadrons at Aviano and the numerous Balkan campaigns of the recent years. While USAFE, AAFES and DECA each provided cost shares, funding came primarily from NATO. ♦



Photo by Maurizio Zorat

Hundreds of people crowded in to see all that the complex had to offer. The lines at the Popeye’s Chicken and Taco Bell franchises set new records for both chains.

Photo by Renzo Basso

Right: CAPT Hollrith issues awards to the ROICC Northern Italy team which made this project possible. Project Engineer LT Matt Riethmiller, Contract Specialist Karen Carney, Electrical Conrep Jeff Wray, Supervisory Con Rep Bobby Canady, Mechanical inspector Mike Guthrie, Conrep Maurizio Zorat and Project Engineer Noel Harris (not pictured) received awards for their efforts.



Photo by Renzo Basso

Above: Along with the civilian awards presented, LT Matt Riethmiller received a Navy Achievement Medal from CAPT Hollrith for his contribution to the team. LT Riethmiller negotiated 85 modifications nearing \$5 million and handled 150 Requests for Information in six months, to keep Aviano’s number one quality of life project on track.

LT Riethmiller said, “Our spouses didn’t see us much. With 400 complex RFI’s and a continual flow of customer and design related changes during the homestretch, anything could have set back the project for months. Noel Harris and Bobby Canady provided the field expertise. Karen Carney and I tried to put the agreements in place to keep the work moving. The success was a team effort.”



Office Spotlight:

Resident Officer In Charge of Construction, Bahrain

Editors Note: This is the first in a series of focus articles on people and places within EFA MED's Area of Responsibility

*By Chris Stevenson, EFA MED
With input by LT Dan Cuozzo,
ROICC, Bahrain*

What's it like to work in Bahrain? Well, how would you like to have every Friday off? Not only is the weather different, so is the work week. The traditional work week for the country's population is Saturday through Wednesday, a schedule followed by DoDDs school system in Bahrain. The Naval Support Activity opts to work Sunday through Thursday to have more overlap with the traditional work week back in the United States.

Bahrain is 8 hours ahead of Norfolk, and quite a bit warmer in the summer. According to LT Cuozzo, summers are "like working in a steam room combined with a sauna ... or is it a sauna combined with a steam room?" Either way, personnel in our Bahrain field office adapt to the climate using two very old-fashioned methods: drinking lots of water and finding shade.

The language spoken in Bahrain is predominately Arabic. A well-known local expression is "Inshallah" translated as "In God's Will." Like the Italian "domani," this expression is rather versatile and can be used in a number of ways to explain any number of challenges.

Although the ROICC Bahrain office is small in size, the staff there has quite a variety of backgrounds and experience. I invite you to try your luck below, and see how well you can identify each member! ♦



NAMES AND FACES at ROICC Bahrain (L to R): LCDR Michael Zuccherro, PWO/OICC; Anita Soans, Contracts Specialist; Godfrey Henry, Construction representative; Duke Kidwell, Construction representative; Marlan Snodgrass, Contracting Officer; Terry Quinn, Construction representative; Mary Magdalene D'souza, Administrative Assistant; LT Daniel Cuozzo, ROICC; and BUI Santiago Olvera Jr., Construction representative.



Who's Who ?

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| 1. LCDR Michael Zuccherro | a. First Sergeant in the U.S. Army Reserve |
| 2. LT Daniel Cuozzo | b. Awarded the Meritorious Civilian Service Award |
| 3. BUI Santiago Olvera Jr. | c. Originally from India |
| 4. Marlan Snodgrass | d. Penn State graduate |
| 5. Anita Soans | e. Retired Navy, 2 grandchildren |
| 6. Mary Magdalene D'souza | f. Worked with USN, USMC, USAF, and DCMC |
| 7. Terry Quinn | g. Lived in Bahrain since 1997 |
| 8. Godfrey Henry | h. Two Masters Degrees, one Daughter |
| 9. Duke Kidwell | i. Three children |
| | j. Two children |
| | k. Previously stationed in Japan, NAS Miramar, RTC Great Lakes |

(Answers on page 7)

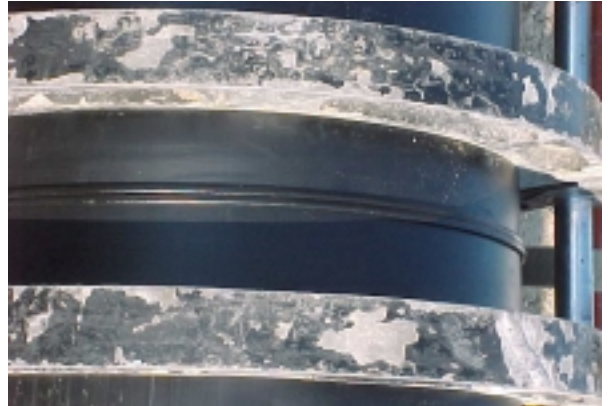
Naval Station Rota goes High Tech

By Rick Vant Hof, Construction Representative, NAVSTA Rota

NAVSTA Rota, SPAIN. - A NAVSTA Rota project has been instituted to upgrade the pressure sewer system from concrete to High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) Pipe. Normally, this type of piping comes in small diameters such as 4" or 6", but the pipe being installed is 24" in diameter and the length of the replacement is 7,546 feet. The project was awarded at a cost of \$430,288.00. After the initial surveying and mobilization, the project began on 16 January 2001 and is scheduled to be completed on 14 April 2001. The project includes trenching, laying pipe, and crossing 4 major roadways, requiring a lot of coordination effort by the ROICC Team LT Dan Brubaker (Project Engineer) and Rick Vant Hof (Construction Rep) at Rota.

Polyethylene pipe was developed industrially in England fifty years ago. It is characterized by low cost, easy assembly, tenacity and flexibility at varying temperatures, but best of all it is odorless as well as non-toxic. Its light weight also allows for significant savings in labor and equipment costs. This pipe has burst pressures 4 times greater than the system's pressure rating.

A welding machine uses "THERMAL BUTT FUSION" to join high Density Polyethylene Pipe, creating a bond that is as strong as the pipe itself (see top photo). This technology has led to the elimination of mechanical fittings and assures no leakage through Infiltration or Ex-filtration. HDPE is extremely flexible, allowing it to follow the contour of installation on rolling terrain, therefore increasing the ease of installation (bottom photo). ♦



Photos by Rick Vant Hof



(Continued from page 2)

The American Embassy had developed a list of schools that met specific requirements in order for funds to be allocated for repairs. We worked closely with Mr. Ben Roohi, a representative of Mercy Corps International – Humanitarian Relief Services, to develop a scope of work to be used in these facilities. Using a combination of building inspections, interviews with Government Engineers, digital photos, and discussions with local officials; an assessment was performed on six schools and a public conservatory.

Most of the buildings were constructed using unreinforced masonry and the electrical systems appeared to be of 1930's origin. Due to a lack of maintenance funding, any mechanical and plumbing systems that had been installed were no longer functioning. Other common problems involved sig-

Earthquake Assessment

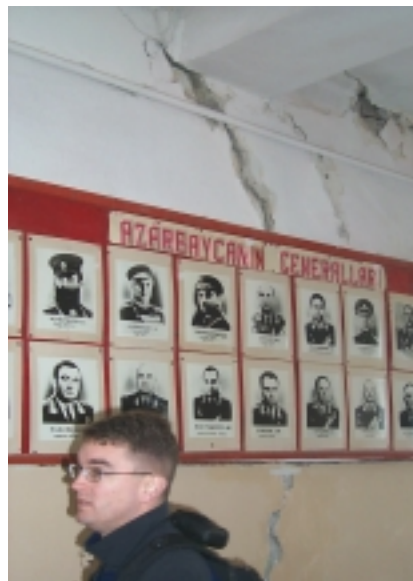


Photo by LT Mark Russell
LCDR(S) Aaby examines damaged walls within the schools.

nificant roof leaks, original windows in which the wood had deteriorated and glass was broken, insufficient foundations causing substantial settling and wall separation, and aged plaster walls/ceilings that had crumbled from neglect. The major part of the assessment involved making recommendations to provide additional protection for the students from the environment and to secure hazards from faulty electrical systems.

The assessment was used to develop a scope of work and cost estimate for repairs to the facilities. After prioritizing the repairs, the scope of work was provided to contractors to solicit their proposals. Repairs are expected to commence this Spring. It is anticipated that a safer environment will be available for many Azeri students by the beginning of the next school year as a direct result of EUCOM Humanitarian Funding and the work of LCDR(s) Aaby and LT Mark Russell. ♦

The Personnel Page

December 2000 through February 2001

Awards

Chris Beckman (HQ)
Gerardo D'Antonio (HQ)
Rosa Esposito (HQ)
Jeffrey Kohler (HQ)
Alisa Mahaffey (HQ)
Scott McAnally (HQ)
Evelina Pagano (HQ)
Alessandro Sodano (HQ)

Promotions

LT Brubaker, ROICC Rota
Dina DeDilectis, ROICC Southern Italy
Leandro Fernandez, HQ
Renee Lightcap, HQ
Katherine Luhmann, HQ
Scott McAnally, HQ
Brian Sanders, HQ

Departures

Concetta Allocca, ROICC S. Italy
Christopher Biglin, HQ
Michael Carrancho, HQ
James Homan, Souda Bay
Dean Koepp, HQ
Manu Romera-Fernandez, ROICC Rota
Beatriz Romero-Junquera, London
David Sellman, ROICC Sigonella
Ersilia Yurmann, ROICC Sigonella

Employment Opportunities

Current: (all open until filled)
Supv. Contract Specialist (London) GS-1102-12
Realty Specialist (HQ) GS-1170-11
Supv. Realty Specialist (HQ) GS-1170-13
General Engineer (HQ) GS-0801-13
Supv. General Engineer (LaMadd) GS-0801-12
General Engineer (Rota) GS-0801-12
General Engineer (Sigonella) GS-0801-12

Arrivals

Robert Anigbogu, Contract Specialist, ROICC Rota
Sheila Clark, Contract Specialist, ROICC Rota
Thomas Hernandez, Mechanical Engineer, HQ
James Hogenson, Fire Protection Engineer, HQ
Kimberly C. Kaiser, Supv. Contract Spec, ROICC Sigonella
Evelyn Roll, Budget Officer, HQ
Erik Torngren, Contract Specialist, ROICC Sigonella
Shawn Wales, Contract Specialist, ROICC La Maddalena

Leadership Development Initiative

By Chris Stevenson
Operations, HQ

The Leadership Development Initiative (LDI) is a Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFACENGCOM) program, developed to promote professional growth of civilian supervisors, managers, and executives. The LDI is a competitive program for civil servants at the GS-11 level and above in the following areas: Acquisition/Contracts; Engineering, Scientific, and Planning; Financial Management; Housing; Information Technology; Management; Public Works Management/Support; and Real Estate.

Through the LDI program, selected participants complete a wide variety of leadership enhancing activities, such as classroom training, individual studies, projects, and rotational assignments outside of their normal workplace. Graduation from the program is typically within 3 years. LDI is not a placement program, and graduation from LDI should not be viewed as a guarantee of future career advancement. However, selection officials may give priority consideration to eligible graduates in filling vacancies, except when precluded by other requirements.

The deadline for applications for the 2002 program is 30 March 2001. For further information on the LDI program, you can check the NAVFAC LDI web site at <http://navfacilitator.navfac.navy.mil/ldp/>, or contact Ms. Chris Stevenson at EFA MED HQ. ♦

Bahrain Who's Who Answers:

(Continued from page 5)

1. h; 2. d,i; 3. j,k; 4. f,j; 5. c,b; 6. c,g; 7. A; 8. b,I; 9. e

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Our mission is to provide timely, cost effective, quality facilities, acquisition and maintenance, leasing, environmental and contingency support to our Navy and DOD customers in Europe, North Africa and the Arabian Gulf through our specialized expertise and our proximity and sensitivity to theater and host nation requirements.

Photo Gallery



ABOVE. MED HQ recently wished farewell to Mr. Chris Biglin from the Counsel's office. Shown here are Christine and Christopher Biglin, Billie Spencer (HQ Counsel), Avv. Medici, and Marlene Olsen (OICC Naples Counsel).



BELOW. EFA MED's resident poet, Mr. Tim O'Connell (Real Estate, HQ) entertains the crowd with his farewell poem to Chris Biglin.



ABOVE. Alisa Mahaffey (Admin Division, HQ) and Teresa McAnally (wife of Scott McAnally, IT Division, HQ) cut the cake during a recent baby shower at EFA MED HQ. Less than 3 weeks later, the Mahaffeys announced the arrival of a daughter Kaija, while the McAnallys welcomed a son Adam.